extent of capital investment can be assessed only after these projects are completed.

Proposal to stop power generation by Eastern GRID

4373. SHRI SOLIPETA RAMACHANDRA REDDY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the eastern power grid has surplus power;

(b) whether the eastern grid is proposing to shut off some of its generation units as the power is in excess of their requirements; and

(c) if so, whether the Ministry of Power would direct the eastern, grid to supply excess power to power starved State of Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Transfer of surplus power in the order of 150 MW from Eastern Region to the Southern Region (Andhra Pradesh) is already taking place for which a PPA has already been signed between NTPC and APSEB.

Funds spent by REC

4374. SHRI YERRA NARAYANASWAMY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state**:**

(a) the funds spent by Rural Electrification Corporation in 1996-97, State-wise;

(b) the states which have properly utilised the funds; and

(c) the steps proposed by rural Electrification Corporation to encourage alternate energy sources in rural areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI): (-a) During the year 1996-97, the Rural Electrification Corporation had disbursed Rs. 812.56 crores (Provisional and unaudited) to various States as per details given in the enclosed Statement *(See* below)

(b) The States of Arunachal Pradesh, Goa, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Manipur, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu and Tripura have fully utilised the funds.

(c) Keeping in view the need to provide electricity to all the villages, REC has been exploring possibilities of electrifying the balance villages and augmenting power supply to the rural areas through alternate energy sources. Guidelines for financing of small power generation projects have been finalised by REC, which encourage participation by private sector agencies, Non-Government organisations, State Electricity Boards and State agencies.

Statement

Statewise Disbursement during 1996-97 (Report as on 31.03.1997)

(Rupees in lakhs)

SI. No.	States	Allocation	Disbu rscment (Provisional)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	5150	1787
2.	Aruanchal Pradesh	995	1199
3.	Assam	2075	13
4.	Bihar	1896	0
5.	Delhi	25	0
6.	Goa	25	197